

*This information is provided as a resource by Saskatchewan Agriculture staff.
All stated cattle prices are based on the weekly Canfax Market Outlook and Summary.
Please use this information at your own risk.*

Cattle Market Update

For the Week Ending September 5, 2014

All prices are quoted in Canadian dollars per hundredweight (\$/cwt) unless otherwise stated.

Saskatchewan Feeder Steer and Feeder Heifer Prices (\$/cwt)

Feeder Steers		300-400	400-500	500-600	600-700	700-800	800-900	900+ lb.
Sept. 5/2014	Average	\$307.17	\$284.17	\$260.33	\$241.50	\$230.00	\$220.20	\$205.70
Sept. 5/2014	Range	290-332	258-320	242-299	225-257	219-244	210-228	199-214
Week/Week	Change	\$11.00	\$1.17	\$9.16	\$6.25	\$3.12	\$3.37	\$6.57
Aug. 29/2014	Average	\$296.17	\$283.00	\$251.17	\$235.25	\$226.88	\$216.83	\$199.13
Feeder Heifers		300-400	400-500	500-600	600-700	700-800	800+ lb.	
Sept. 5/2014	Average	N.A.	\$250.50	\$238.50	\$222.13	\$213.00	\$201.25	
Sept. 5/2014	Range	N.A.	236-280	217-268	210-240	203-221	193-210	
Week/Week	Change	N.A.	\$12.83	\$7.33	\$5.93	\$5.90	\$5.75	
Aug. 29/2014	Average	\$261.17	\$237.67	\$231.17	\$216.20	\$207.10	\$195.50	

Source: CanFax

Note: Prices are determined from Saskatchewan auction marts' reports of sale results from Thursday of the previous week to Thursday of the current week. N.A. means not available due to lack of sufficient data.

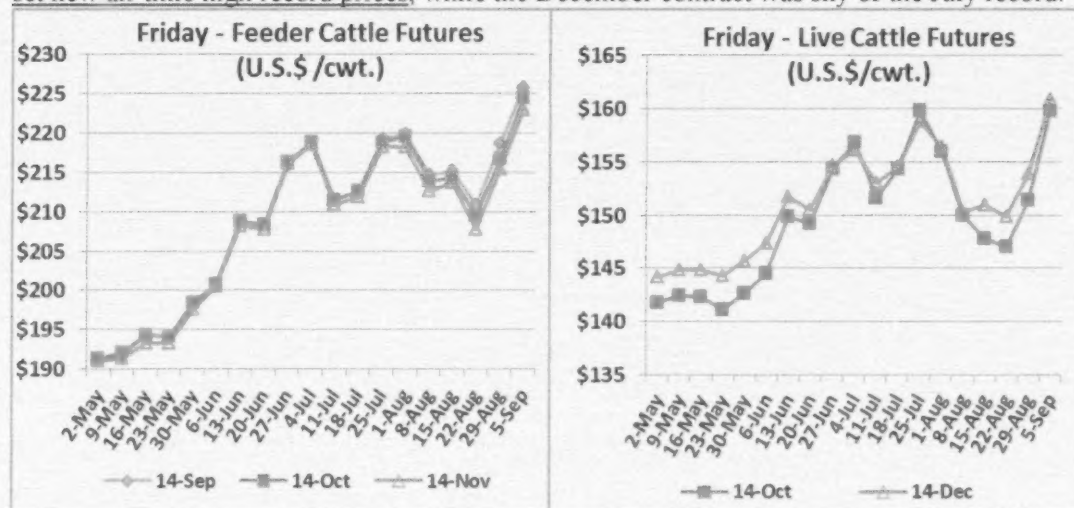
Canfax reported that a total of 6,326 head of cattle were sold in Saskatchewan this week, down from 7,141 head marketed the previous week.

Saskatchewan feeder steer prices were higher over the week with some big gains in some of the weight categories. Saskatchewan feeder steer prices increased between \$1.17 per cwt and \$11.00 per cwt. The biggest gain over the week was in the 300-400 lb. weight category which increased \$11.00 per cwt, followed by the 500-600 lb. weight category which increased by \$9.16 per cwt. All feeder steer weight categories except the 400-500 lb. weight category reached new all-time high record prices over the week.

Feeder heifer prices were higher over the week and increased between \$5.75 per cwt and \$12.83 per cwt with the 400-500 lb. weight category having the largest increase. The feeder heifer weight categories in the 400-700 lb. and 800+ lb. categories all reached new all-time high record prices over the week.

The Saskatchewan 750 lb. feeder steer basis compared to the September 4, 2014 U.S. feeder cattle index at US\$224.28 per cwt was calculated at -\$14.05 per cwt (US\$224.28/0.9190 - \$230.00), a basis widening of \$3.34 per cwt from the basis of \$-10.71 per cwt on August 28, 2014.

Feeder cattle futures prices continued to rebound noticeably higher over the week. The nearby September to December contracts increased between US\$7.075 and US\$7.650 per cwt. The September contract settled Friday at US\$225.725 per cwt while the October contract increased US\$7.650 per cwt to settle Friday at US\$224.375 per cwt. The September and October contracts set new all-time high record prices, while the December contract was shy of the July record.



Source: CME

Source: CME

Live cattle futures prices also continued to rebound significantly, week-over-week. Live cattle futures prices increased by US\$8.325 per cwt for October and US\$6.975 per cwt for December. The October contract settled Friday at US\$159.750 per cwt while the December contract settled Friday at US\$160.925 per cwt. The October feeder cattle futures price was just shy of the last record high price set on July 30, while the December futures contract reached a new all-time high record price.

Iowa cash corn prices moved lower week-over-week decreasing 8 cents per bushel to end Friday at US\$3.39 per bushel. The September corn futures contract was down over 12 cents to settle Friday at US\$3.46½ per bushel, while the December corn futures contract was down almost 9 cents to settle Friday at \$3.56 per bushel. Continued good crop prospects as harvest gets closer has continued to keep corn prices under pressure, and well below year-over-year prices.

Fed and Non-fed Cattle

	September 5	August 29	Change over Week
Cows (Alberta)			
D1,2 Live	123.63	122.30	+1.33
D3 Live	111.90	110.08	+1.82
Rail	234-239	234-239	0.00

Source: Canfax.

Prices for liveweight, non-fed cattle in Alberta edged higher last week with D1,2 slaughter cows increasing \$1.33 per cwt to average \$123.63 per cwt, while the price of D3 slaughter cows increased \$1.82 per cwt to average \$111.90 per cwt.

Fed cattle prices in Western Canada moved higher over the week. The price of fed steers in Alberta was reported to average \$163.50 per cwt, up \$3.02 per cwt from the price of \$160.48 per cwt the previous week, and within two dollars of the August all-time high record price.

The live (FOB feedlot) weighted average 5-area (Texas/Oklahoma/New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Iowa/Minnesota) weekly fed steer price in the U.S. was reported at US\$161.28 per cwt, up US\$5.83 per cwt from US\$155.45 per cwt the previous week, and up 31.2 per cent from US\$122.91 per cwt the same week a year ago. The dressed (delivered basis) price for U.S. steers delivered to plants in the 5-area was reported at US\$250.61 per cwt, up US\$5.95 per cwt from US\$244.66 per cwt the previous week, and up 29.1 per cent from US\$194.17 per cwt the same week a year ago.

Choice beef cutout prices (600-900 lb.) averaged US\$247.62 per cwt, down slightly from the weekly average price of US\$247.75 per cwt the previous week, but up 26.4 per cent from US\$195.94 per cwt the same week a year ago.

Beef production for the shorter Labor Day holiday week was 420.5 million lb., down 11.2 per cent from 473.5 million lb. the previous week, and down 8.9 per cent from 461.5 million lb. the same week a year ago. Cattle slaughtered over the shorter week totaled 518,000 head, down 11.3 per cent from 584,000 head the previous week, and down 10.0 per cent from 576,000 the same week a year ago.

United States beef plus beef variety exports in July 2014 were 101.8 million metric tons, down 14.4 per cent from 118.9 million metric tons in July 2013, and down 4.5 per cent from June 2014. By dollar value, July 2014 exports were \$621.7 million dollars, down slightly from \$622.8 million dollars in July 2013, and down 1.6 per cent from June 2014. Strong export values have kept sales by total value relatively level. U.S. exports for the first seven months of 2014 are up 4.0 per cent by volume and up 12.9 per cent by sales value to almost \$3.9 billion dollars. The biggest absolute value increases have come from Hong Kong/China, Mexico, and South Korea. (Source: U.S. Meat Export Federation)

Friday Price Information

Product	This Week (September 5)	Week of: (August 29)
Canadian Dollar (closing rate US\$)	.9190	.9197
U.S. Cash Cattle		
Thurs. Feeder Cattle (FC) Index (US\$ per cwt)	224.28	218.51
Seven-day Weighted Average FC Index Wt. (lb.)	762	760
Live Fed 5-area Steer Price (US\$ per cwt)	161.28	155.45
Feed Grains		
Barley Lethbridge (\$/tonne)	169.00	176.00
(\$ per bu.)	3.68	3.83
Corn Iowa State Average (CDN\$/tonne)*	145.22	148.53
(US\$ per bu.)	3.39	3.47
Omaha, NE (CDN\$/tonne)*	145.65	156.67
(US\$ per bu.)	3.40	3.66
Futures		
Sept. Corn (US\$ per bu.)	3.46½	3.59
Dec. Corn (US\$ per bu.)	3.56	3.64¾
October Live Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	159.750	151.425
December Live Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	160.925	153.950
September Feeder Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	225.725	218.650
November Feeder Cattle (US\$ per cwt)	222.925	215.375

Sources: Bank of Canada, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship,
Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), ICE Futures Canada and USDA Livestock & Grain Market News

* conversion to CDN\$ is based on Friday's CDN\$ closing rate

For more information contact:

Brad Marceniuk, PAg
Provincial Livestock Economist
306-933-5098
brad.marceniuk@gov.sk.ca